

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 0215

S E C R E T BRASILIA 1423

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH MNUC PARM BR

SUBJECT: UNOFFICIAL US/BRAZILIAN CONTRACTS

REF: STATE 035757

1. THE PRINCIPAL SIGNAL THAT HAS BEEN GIVEN PRIVATELY AND PUBLICLY BY THE GOB SINCE THE LERTA DO CUNHA MEETING IS THE NARROWER DEFINITION OF WHAT THE GOB IS PREPARED TO TALK ABOUT A MATTER DISCUSSED AT SOME LENGTH IN BRASILIA 1414 AND BRASILIA 1419.

2. I OFFER THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON THE MORE IMPORTANT POINTS ATTRIBUTED TO LEITAO DA CUNHA:

A. RE: FIRST SENTENCE OF FIRST SUBPARA OF PAR 1:

LEITAO DO CUNHA'S COMMENT IS CONSISTENT WITH THE NEW BRAZILIAN FORMULATION AND PRESENTS ALL ITS PROBLEMS. AS A GENERAL PROPOSITION, THE EMBASSY HAS STEADILY ADVOCATED ENGAGING THE GOB IN SOME MULTILATERAL EXAMINATION OF THE BROAD PROBLEMS, AS A FACE SAVING DEVICE. IN THIS CONTEXT, IT IS POSSIBLE TO CONCEIVE A CONFERENCE AMONG SUPPLIERS AND MAJOR USERS TO DISCUSS "GLOBAL PROBLEMS OF THE PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE CAPABILITIES, INCLUDING THE SPREAD OF SENSITIVE TECHNOLOGIES AS CONTRIBUTING TO SUCH PROLIFERATION." THIS PHRASEOLOGY IS MY OWN FORMULATION OF WHAT WE MEAN BY PROLIFERATION; IT IS SHARPLY AT VARIANCE WITH THE BRAZILIAN

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INTERPRETATION OF PROLIFERATION. SO WE COME BACK TO WHERE WE STARTED.

B. RE: THE SECOND SENTENCE OF THAT SUBPARA: I SEE NO PROFIT FOR USE AND SEVERAL ADVANTAGES FOR THE GOB IN PURSUING THE TLAELOLCO TRACK, IN THE ABSENCE OF SOME CLEAR INDICATION OF A COMPLETE BRAZILIAN CHANGE OF HEART ON CRITICAL FEATURES OF THE TREAT. IT SEEMS TO ME THAT, IN MANY

RESPECTS, TLATELOLCO EPITOMIZES THE DIFFERENCES IN THE US AND BRAZILIAN APPROACHES. OBVIOUSLY, THE DEPUTY SECRETARY AND HIS PARTY SHOULD BE PREPARED TO DEAL WITH POSSIBLE BRAZILIAN EFFORTS TO RING TLATELOLCO IN.

C. RE: SECON SUBPARA OF PARA 1: I SEE NO PROBLEM FOR US IN REITERATING THE NON-DISCREMINATION POINT. THE CONCLUDKING CLAUSE OF TH FIRST SENTENCE OAND THE SECOND SENTENCE SEEM TO ME TO BE OUT OF CONTEXT; I DONOT GRASP THE DIRECT RELATIONAHIP BETWEEN NON-DISCRIMINATION AND SUEL ASSURANCES, PARTICULARLY WITH THE IAEA "FUEL BAN(" IDEA IS TREATED SEPARATELY IN PARA 2.

D. ON THE FUEL ASURANCES QUESTION AND TIEH IAEA "FUEL BANK" CONCEPT, WE HAVE STATE OUR POSITION ON THE GENERAL AND SPECIFIC ASPECTS AT LENGTH IN EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

E. I SEE ABSOLUTELY NO VIRTURE IN PRESENTING " APOLOGIES" FOR "PAST DISCRIMINATORY APPROACH."I AM NOT AL ALL CLEAR WHETHER LEITAO DO CUNHA IS REFERRING TO OUR "SINGLING OUT" THE GOB AND THE FRG IN THE RECENT PAST OR TO THE "CONDITINAL CONTRACTS" QUESTION IN 1974. IN THE FIRST CASE, IT WOULD BE A STRATEGIC, TACTICAL AND MORAL MISTAKE TO "APOLOGIZE IN ANY LITERAL SENSE. WE SHOULD SIMPLY EMPHASIZE THE GLOBAL NAUTE OF THE PROBLEM AND OUR MOST RECENT PUBLIC AND PRIVATE DECLARATION TO THAT EFFECT, DRESSING TEM UP A BIT, PERHAPS. I AM ALSO INTERESTED IN ASSUAGEING GOB "RANCOR" TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE BUT NOT AT THE EXPENSE OF JEOPARDIZING OUR BASIC POSITION OR OF ABSOLVING, IN EFFECT, THE GOB AND FRG OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITES.

3. I HOPE THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE PRIVATE GROUP THAT HAS BEEN DEALING WITH LEITAO DO CUNHA ARE BEING GIVEN GUIDANCE BY
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THE DEPARTMENT AND ARE WELL INFORMED. I ADMIRE THEIR PUBLIC SPIRIT AND THEIR GOOD INTENTIONS, AND I REOCONIZE THEIR POSSIBLE POTENTIAL USEFULNESS. ON THE BASIS OF MY ADMITTEDLY LIMITED EXPERIENCE AND INFORMATION TO DATE, HOWEVER, I AM SOMEWHAT UNCERTAIN ABOUT THE DEPTH OF THEIR INFORMATION. I AM COMFORTED BY THE INVOLVEMENT OF GOVERNOR HARRIMAN.
CRIMMINS

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